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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/691,855	10/23/2003	Bryan T. Starbuck	13768.469	6729

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WORKMAN NYDEGGER/MICROSOFT
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
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EXAMINER

SYED, FARHAN M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2165

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-13 and 25 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1-13 and 25 in the reply filed on 22 June 2006 is acknowledged.
3. The Examiner acknowledges the cancellation of claims in Groups II (claims 14-24 and 26) by the Applicant in the reply filed 22 June 2006.

Drawings

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: Figure 1, item 154; Figure 3, items 333 and 334. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and

informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

- 2.. Claims 1-13 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shuman (U.S. Patent 6,424,995).

As per claims 1 and 25, Shuman teaches a computer system that is network connectable along with one or more other computer systems to a network (i.e. *"Furthermore, those skilled in the art will recognize that the present invention may be implemented in a stand-alone or in a distributed computing environment." "Examples of such distributed computing environments include local area networks, enterprise-wide computer networks, and the global Internet."*)(Column 4, lines 20-23, lines 27-30), a method for registering a message application to have primary control of a message folder space, the method comprising (i.e. *"Those skilled in the art will also appreciate that the controls displayed by a form also vary based on the context in which the message is being displayed, i.e., whether the message is being composed by a user, or has already been sent or received by a user. In the context of an e-mail message, a "compose" form will include controls that allow the user to send the message when composition is complete. Similarly, a*

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"receive" form will include controls that allow a user to forward the message to others, or reply to the sender. A "sent" form may indicate to the sender when the message was sent, and allow the user to send it to others.") (Column 13, lines 41-52); an act of an operating system receiving a folder registration request from a message application (i.e. *"The operation of these MAPI components is illustrated by describing the flow of an electronic message through these components. The user of a client application 300 sends an electronic message to one or more recipients. A message store provider 330 initiates the sending process and formats the message with additional information needed for transmission. The MAPI spooler 310 receives the electronic message, performs any required preprocessing, and delivers it to the appropriate transport provider 340.*") (Column 9, lines 44-49); an act of the operating system determining that a folder silo has resources available to satisfy the folder registration request (i.e. *"Message store providers 330 handle the storage and retrieval of electronic messages and other information for the users of a client application. As illustrated in FIG. 4, the message information is organized using a hierarchical system known as a message store, which is implemented in multiple levels, with containers called folders holding electronic messages of different types. There is no limit to the number of levels in a message store, and folders can contain many sub-folders.*") (Column 9, lines 11-19); an act of the operating system allocating a folder space within the folder silo to satisfy the folder registration request (i.e. *"Message store providers 330 handle the storage and retrieval of electronic messages and other information for the users of a client application. As illustrated in FIG. 4, the message information is organized using a hierarchical system known as a message store, which is implemented in multiple levels, with containers called folders holding electronic messages of different types. There is no limit to the number of levels in a message store, and folders can contain many sub-folders.*") (Column 9, lines 11-19); and an act of the operating system maintaining an indication that the message application has primary control of the allocated folder space such that other message applications can be made aware that the message application has primary control of the allocated folder space (i.e. *"Message*

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store providers 330 handle the storage and retrieval of electronic messages and other information for the users of a client application. As illustrated in FIG. 4, the message information is organized using a hierarchical system known as a message store, which is implemented in multiple levels, with containers called folders holding electronic messages of different types. There is no limit to the number of levels in a message store, and folders can contain many sub-folders.")(Column 9, lines 11-19).

As per claim 2, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the act of an operating system receiving a folder registration request from a message application comprises an act of receiving a folder request from an electronic mail application (i.e. *"FIG. 3 illustrates the modular architecture defined by MAPI. The client applications 300 are application programs that take advantage of the MAPI subsystem 305."*)(Column 8, lines 7-9; Figure 3).

As per claim 3, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the act of an operating system receiving a folder registration request from a message application comprises an act of receiving a folder request for a folder space that is to store electronic messages having fields defined in accordance with a message application extension schema (i.e. *"In FIG. 4, the first folder 400 contains note messages and uses the MAPI standard note form. The second folder 405 contains inventory request messages and uses a custom inventory form. The information on both forms represents the properties, or attributes, of the message. Messages are the units of data transferred from one user to another. Every message contains some text, which is formatted simply or more intricately depending on the form that is used, and envelope information that is used for transmission."*)(Column 9, lines 64-67; Figure 4).

As per claim 4, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the act of an operating system receiving a folder registration request from a message application comprises an act of receiving a folder request for a folder space that is to store electronic messages having specified primary type (i.e. *"In FIG. 4, the first folder 400 contains note messages and uses the MAPI standard note form. The second folder 405 contains inventory request messages and uses a custom inventory form. The information on both forms represents the properties, or attributes, of the message. Messages are the units of data transferred from one user to another. Every message contains some text, which is formatted simply or more intricately depending on the form that is used, and envelope information that is used for transmission."*)(Column 9, lines 64-67; Figure 4).

As per claim 5, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the act of the operating system determining that a folder silo has resources available to satisfy the folder registration request comprises an act of determining that a requested folder space is not currently allocated (Figures 3, 4, 5).

As per claim 6, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the operating system allocating a folder space within the folder silo comprises an act creating the folder space (Figure 2, 3).

As per claim 7, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the operating system allocating a folder space comprises an act of allocating a folder space that is to store electronic mail messages (Figure 3).

As per claim 8, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the operating system allocating a folder space comprises an act of allocating a folder space that is to store electronic messages having fields defined in accordance with a message application extension schema (Figure 3, 4).

As per claim 9, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the operating system allocating a folder space comprises an act of allocating a folder space that is to store electronic messages of a specified primary type (Figure 3, 4).

As per claim 10, Shuman teaches a method, wherein an act of the operating system maintaining an indication that the message application has primary control of the allocated folder space comprises an act of updating an external list that tracks which message folders are allocated to which message applications (Figure 3, 4).

As per claim 11, Shuman teaches a method, wherein the operating system maintaining an indication that the message application has primary control of the allocated folder space comprises an act of altering the arrangement of the folder silo such that subsequent analysis of the folder silo indicates that the folder space is allocated to the message application (Figure 3).

As per claim 12, Shuman teaches a method, further comprising: an act of the operating system preventing another message application from accessing the allocated folder space subsequent to the folder space being allocated (Figure 3).

As per claim 13, Shuman teaches a method, further comprising: an act of the operating system sending a signal to the message application, the signal indicating the folder registration request was satisfied (i.e. *"Message store providers 330 handle the storage and retrieval of electronic messages and other information for the users of a client application. As illustrated in FIG. 4, the message information is organized using a hierarchical system known as a message store, which is implemented in multiple levels, with containers called folders holding electronic messages of different types. There is no limit to the number of levels in a message store, and folders can contain many sub-folders."*)(Figure 3, 4, 5).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farhan M. Syed whose telephone number is 571-272-7191. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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